

Message Text

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43

ACTION INT-05

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R 011106Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3880

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0623

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, BTRA, (MCLLMURRAY, BRENDAND) SF

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ANGLOVAAL PLATINUM REP.

BUMINES FOR NAHAI: USGS FOR REINEMUND

1. BRENDAN MCLLMURRAY, ASSISTANT METALS MARKETING ADVISOR, ANGLOVAAL PLATINUM, PLANS VISIT WASHINGTON MAY 8 AND HOPES TO MEET WITH NAHAI (BUMINES) AND REINEMUND (USGS) ON THAT DATE. MCLLMURRAY REGRETS UNAVOIDABLY SHORT PLANNING LEAD TIME AND TIGHT SCHEDULE WHILE IN WASHINGTON AREA (HE WILL ARRIVE AND DEPART WASHINGTON AREA SAME DAY), BUT IS EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO ARRANGE MAY 8 LUNCH MEETING WITH NAHAI IN THE DISTRICT AND AFTERNOON DISCUSSION WITH REINEMUND AT RESTON (ENROUTE TO DULLES AIRPORT, AND ONWARD TO DETROIT).

2. MCLLMURRAY WILL BE IN NEW YORK (STATLER HILTON) MAY 7 AND WILL TELEPHONE NAHAI AND REINEMUND AT THAT TIME TO CONFIRM MEETING DATE AND TIMES. HE WILL NOT BE REACHABLE HER DURING INTERIM.

3. PURPOSE OF U.S. VISIT WILL BE ATTEMPT TO EVALUATE CURRENT PLATINUM MARKETING OUTLOOK (U.S. IMPORTS) IN LIGHT OF RECENT REPORTS OF POSSIBLE CUTBACK IN U.S. BUYING. MCLLMURRAY THUS LOOKS TO-WARD THE BUMINES AND USGS FOR BRIEFING AND GUIDANCE PRIOR TO HIS PLANNED SESSIONS WITH AUTO INDUSTRY REPS BEGINNING MAY 9.

4. FYI: ANGLOVAAL OPERATES THE ATOK PLATINUM MINE IN THE
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NORTHERN TRANSVAAL. THE OPERATION IS JOINTLY OWNED BY ANGLO

TRANSVAAL CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, MIDDLE WITWATERSRAND
AND U.S. STEEL CORP. WHILE ATOK IS SOUTH AFRICA'S SMALLEST
PRODUCER OF PLATINUM, AT 18,000 OUNCES OF METAL IN 1974
(160,000 TONS OF ORE) (VIS-A-VIS RUSTENBURG AT 700,000 OUNCES
DURING THE SAME PERIOD), THE FIRM IS NONETHELESS AN IMPORTANT
AND RELIABLE EXPORTER TO THE U.S. FURTHER, THE COMPANY IS
CURRENTLY EXPANDING ITS ATOK OPERATION AND WILL WELCOME
SUBSTANTIVE COUNSEL IN LIGHT OF ON-GOING AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT
AND CONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES. YOUR ASSISTANCE WITHIN NORMAL
POLICIES AND GUIDELINES WILL BE APPRECIATED. END FYI.
STEINS

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